11-4-04

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Docket No.: 30811/40225
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Jeffrey Held et al.

Application No.: 10/795,944 Confirmation No.: 1414

Filed: March 8, 2004 Art Unit: 1724

For: METHOD FOR TREATING WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE USING ELECTROPORATION Examiner: P. A. Hruskoci

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)). Consequently, the fee of $180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) is enclosed.

Listed on the Form PTO-1449 (modified) are several U.S. and foreign references that were originally submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) mailed on July 12, 2004. Specifically, the PTO-1449 (modified) lists U.S. Patent No. 3,265,605 to Doevenspeck, German Laid-Open Application No. 4 101 076 (abstract attached), and Japanese Laid-Open Application Nos. 1-210100 (translation attached) and 1-

307500 (abstract attached). Because the July 12 IDS was filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits but without a the statement under 1.97(e) or the fee under 1.17(p), applicants submit these references again with the fee under 1.17(p) to ensure their consideration in regard to this application. Applicants also submit an International Search Report from a counterpart application that discusses and applies certain of these references, as well as others previously cited in this application.

Second, in regard to the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (SIDS) submitted August 20, 2004, applicants note that while most of the references cited in the SIDS had been cited in one or more of the applications to which priority is claimed in the present application, certain references were being cited for the first time. Specifically, U.S. Patent No. 4,620,493 to Carlson and PCT Published Application Nos. WO 99/24372 to Held and WO 02/04356 to Held et al. were cited for the first time in the August 20 SIDS.

Third, applicants note that while it was their intent to list all of the references previously cited in the applications to which the present application claims priority in the August 20 SIDS, a limited number of references were inadvertently omitted: U.S. Patent Nos. 4,592,291 to Sullivan III, 4,631,133 to Axelrod, 5,091,079 to Gayman, and 5,507,927 to Emery and French Laid-Open Application No. 2,327,965 (originally cited by the examiner in U.S. Application No. 08/552,226, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,695,650). These four U.S. patents and the French application are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified).

Fourth, the August 20 SIDS failed to mention that it was unnecessary to submit copies of the Japanese Laid-Open applications listed on the accompanying Form SB/08 because these documents had been previously submitted to or cited by the Office in an application that is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. Specifically, applicants submitted JP 60-25597 with an English language abstract during the prosecution of U.S. Application No. 08/552,226, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,695,650, while JP 53-91468 was cited by the examiner in the same application.

Finally, applicants submit herewith several other U.S. Patents and non-patent literature documents in furtherance of their obligations under 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Our check in the amount of $180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 30811/40225. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 3, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

Paul C. Craane
Registration No.: 38,851
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorney for Applicant

Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	Atty. Docket No. 30811/40225	Serial No. 10/795,944
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	Applicant(s) Held et al.	
	Filing Date March 8, 2004	Art Unit 1724

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If Appropriate)
	3,265,605	8/9/66	Doevenspeck	204	165	
	4,592,291	6/3/86	Sullivan III	110	346	
	4,631,133	12/23/86	Axelrod	210	739	
	4,917,785	4/17/90	Juvan	204	164	
	4,957,606	9/18/90	Juvan	204	164	
	5,037,524	8/6/91	Juvan	204	660	
	5,091,079	2/25/92	Gayman	210	175	
	5,464,513	11/7/95	Goriachev	204	164	
	5,507,927	4/16/96	Emery	204	157.43	
	5,522,553	6/4/96	LeClair et al.	241	21	
	5,630,915	5/20/97	Greene et al.	204	164	
	5,801,489	9/1/98	Chism Jr., et al.	315	111.21	
	6,402,065	6/11/02	Higgins	241	21	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Translation	
				Yes	No
	DE 4 101 076	8/8/91	Germany	Abst.	
	JP 1-210100	8/23/89	Japan	X	
	JP 1-307500	12/12/89	Japan	Abst.	
	WO98/58740	12/30/98	WIPO	N/A	

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OTHER DOCUMENTS	
	International Search Report (counterpart to priority application).
	Bradley et al., *Bipolar Electrodeposition on Nanotubes* (USA).
	Castro et al., *Microbial Inactivation of Foods by Pulsed Electric Fields*, J. Food Proc. Pres. 17:47-73 (1993) (USA).
	Consideration of Sludge Dewatering Methods in The Microbiology of Waste Waters (W.B. Sauders & Co.) pp.6-8, 17 (1971) (USA).
	Dossenbach et al., *Pulse Current Electrodeposition of Palladium Silver Alloys* in AESF (American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society) Third International Pulse Plating Symposium H1-H3 (1986) (USA).
	El-Shazly et al., *High-Speed Metal Deposition Using Interrupted Current Techniques* in AESF (American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society) Third International Pulse Plating Symposium C1-C7, C9-C11 (1986) (USA).
	Method Improves Sludge Digestion, Waste Treatment Tech. News v.12 i8 (1996) (USA).
	Gutierrez, *Recent Advances in Pulse Plating Power Supply Technology & Plating Capability*, AESF 5th Pulse Plating Symposium 1-23 (June 2000) (USA).
	Kady International materials – 4 pages (circa 1999) (USA).
	Kady Internation materials – 2 pages (circa 1999) (USA).
	Koelzer, *Back to the Basics: Pulse Math*, Plating & Surface Finishing (Dec. 2000) (USA).
	Mertens et al., *Developments of Nonthermal Processes for Food Preservation*, Food Tech. 46(5):124, 126-133 (May 1992) (USA).
	Milad et al., *PPR Plating for HDI*, PC Fab, 40, 42, 44, 46 (2000) (USA).
	Peshkovsky et al., *Dipolar Interactions in Molecules Aligned by Strong AC Electric Fields*, J. Magnetic Resonance, 147:104-109 (2000) (USA).

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	Puippe, *Influence of Charge and Discharge of Electrical Double Layer in Pulse Plating* in Theory and Practice of Pulse Plating (Americal Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society), ch. 4, pp.41-43 (1986) (USA).
	Puippe, *Qualitative Approach to Pulse Plating* in Theory and Practice of Pulse Plating (Americal Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society), ch. 1, pp.1-3 (1986) (USA).
	U.S. Food and Drug Administration, *Kinetics of Microbial Inactivation for Alternative Food Processing Technologies – Pulsed Electric Fields* (June 2000) (USA).
	Wadehra et al, *Reduced Wasting from Activated Sludge Processes Using a Mechanical Cell Lysis Technology* in WEFTEC 1999, (1999) (USA).
	Zhang, Q. H., Monsalve-Gonzalez, A., Barbosa-Cánovas, G. V. and Swanson, B. G., *Inactivation of E. coli and S. cerevisiae by pulsed electric fields under controlled temperature conditions*, Transactions of the ASAE. 37(2):581-587 (1994) (USA).
	Zhang, Q. H., Chang, F.-J. and Barbosa-Cánovas, G. V., *Inactivation of microorganisms in a semisolid model food using high voltage pulsed electric fields*, Lebensm Wiss Technol. 27(6):538-543 (1994) (believed to be Germany).
	Zhang, Q. H., Qin, B.-L., Barbosa-Cánovas, G. V. and Swanson, B. G, *Inactivation of E. coli for food pasteurization by high-strength pulsed electric fields*, J. Food Process Preserv. 19(2):103-118 (1995) (USA).
	Zhang, Q. H., Barbosa-Cánovas, G. V. and Swanson, B. G., *Engineering aspects of pulsed electric field pasteurization*, J. Food Eng. 25(2):261-281 (1995) (Great Britain).
	Zhang, Q. H., Qiu, X. and Sharma, S. K., *Recent development in pulsed electric field processing*. National Food Processors Association - New Technologies Yearbook. 31-46 (1997) (believed to be USA).

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